IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln No.:	10/715,988	)	**Confirmation No. 4889**
Filed:	November 18, 2003	)	This Appeal Brief is being electronically filed with the USPTO's EFS-WEB, on this date, February 24, 2010.
Applicant:	Fitzgibbon et al.	)	
Title:	ENTRY CONTROL SYSTEM	)	
Art Unit:	2612	)	
Examiner:	Hal I. Kaplan	)	
Attorney Docket:	5569/79076 (03-31)	)	
Customer No.:	22242	)	

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APPEAL BRIEF

Applicants hereby petition under 37 CFR § 1.136(a) for a one-month extension of time in the above-captioned application, up to and including February 28, 2010, to make this reply timely.

In response to the Final Rejection mailed July 30, 2009 and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §41.37, we hereby respectfully submit the following Brief in support of the corresponding appeal.

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(1) Real Party in Interest

The real party in interest is The Chamberlain Group, Inc., the assignee of record, a subsidiary of Duchossois Industries, Inc.

(2) Related Appeals and Interferences

There are no other related appeals, interferences, or judicial proceedings known to appellant, the appellant's legal representative, or assignee that will directly affect, be directly affected by, or have a bearing on the Board's decision in the pending appeal.

(3) Status of Claims

Claims 1, 2, 4, 7, 11, 12, 14, 17, 18, and 21 are pending and presently stand at least twice and finally rejected and constitute the subject matter of this appeal. Claims 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 13, 15, 16, 19, and 20 have been previously cancelled.

(4) Status of Amendments

No post-final amendments have been entered.

(5) Summary of Claimed Subject Matter

A concise explanation of the subject matter of the independent claims appears as follows (with corresponding references to the page and line number (in page:line-line or page:line-page:line format) of the specification as filed (and/or by paragraph number of the published specification, where appropriate)) and to the drawing(s) (if any) by figure number and reference characters.[1]

Independent Claim Subject Matter Map

Claim 1

An entry control system for permitting authorized users to access a controlled area by moving a barrier, comprising:	This preamble is considered to be non-limiting.
a close button, the close button producing a close signal whenever the close button is actuated by a user;	FIG. 1 at element 26, 6:2-3 ([0021]), 10:1-2 ([0035])
an entry request device for accepting a user authorization code;	FIG. 1 at element 32, 4:24-25 ([0020])
a controller operably and wirelessly coupled to the entry request device and the close button and having an output,	FIG. 1 at elements 18 and 22, 6:22-24 ([0023]); and FIG. 5 at element 502, 9:17-18 and 24-25 ([0033-34]); which show that the close button may be on the keypad which is wirelessly connected to the controller.

1 It will be understood that in some instances the content of a given referenced paragraph may additionally contain content that is tangential or even irrelevant to the claimed subject matter. It will also be understood that this summarization of the claimed subject matter is, in fact, a "summary" and that the applicant does not represent or intend that this brief presentation, or the accompanying references to the drawings and the specification, comprises an exhaustive presentation in this regard. As always, the claims are to be viewed and interpreted in view of the context of the entire specification sans the Abstract.

such that the controller receives and authenticates the user authorization code and wherein the close button and the entry request device are disposed in a housing, and the receipt of the close signal from the close button automatically causes the controller to issue a close barrier signal at the output in order to close the barrier without the need to authenticate any user authorization code and without consideration of a length of time of actuation of the close button to effect closure of the barrier.	FIG. 2 at element 32; FIG. 1 at elements 18 and 22, 5:15-29 ([0020]), 6:22-24 ([0023]); and FIG. 5 at element 502, 9:17-18 and 24-25 ([0033-34]); FIG. 1 at element 26, 6:2-3 ([0021]), 10:1-2 ([0035])

Claim 11

An entry control system for permitting authorized users to access a controlled area by moving a barrier, comprising:	This preamble is considered to be non-limiting.
a close button, the close button generating a close signal whenever the close button is actuated;	FIG. 1 at element 26, 6:2-3 ([0021]), 10:1-2 ([0035])
an entry request device for accepting a user authorization code;	FIG. 1 at element 32, 4:24-25 ([0020])
a controller operably and wirelessly coupled to the entry request device and the close button and having an output,	FIG. 1 at elements 18 and 22, 6:22-24 ([0023]); and FIG. 5 at element 502, 9:17-18 and 24-25 ([0033-34]); which show that the close button may be on the keypad which is wirelessly connected to the controller.

such that the controller receives and authenticates the user authorization code and wherein the close button and the entry request device are disposed in a housing, the receipt of a close signal from the close button automatically causes the controller to issue a close barrier signal at the output in order to close the barrier without the need to authenticate any user authorization code and without consideration of a length of time of actuation of the close button to effect closure of the barrier, and the close signal received from the close button is caused by the actuation of the close button by any user.	FIG. 2 at element 32; FIG. 1 at elements 18 and 22, 5:15-29 ([0020]), 6:22-24 ([0023]); and FIG. 5 at element 502, 9:17-18 and 24-25 ([0033-34]); FIG. 1 at element 26, 6:2-3 ([0021]), 10:1-2 ([0035])

(6) Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal

Whether claims 1-2, 4, 11-12, and 14 are properly rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement.

Whether claims 1-2, 4, 11-12, and 14 are obvious under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 4,408,251 to Kaplan ("Kaplan") in combination with U.S. Patent No. 5,656,900 to Michel ("Michel").

Whether claims 1-2, 4, 11-12, and 14 are obvious under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Kaplan in combination with U.S. Patent No. 5,576,670 to Heitschel ("Heitschel").

(7) Argument

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, written description requirement.

Claims 1-2, 4, 11-12, and 14

Independent claims 1 and 11 are directed toward systems for permitting authorized users to access a controlled area by moving a barrier. The Examiner objects to the recitation of "the receipt of the close signal from the close button automatically causes the controller to issue a close barrier signal at the output in order to close the barrier . . . without consideration of a length of time of actuation of the close button to effect closure of the barrier" in independent claims 1 and 11. Claims 1 and 11 also recite "the close button producing [or generating] a close signal whenever the close button is actuated."

"To satisfy the written description requirement, a patent specification must describe the claimed invention in sufficient detail that one skilled in the art can reasonably conclude that the inventor had possession of the claimed invention." MPEP 2163 (citations omitted).

The specification supports the rejected claim recitations in at least the following passages:

> A "close only" button 26 when activated will cause garage door 14 to close if it is already open. [Application at page 6, lines 2-3; published application at paragraph 21.]
>
> In a preferred approach, the specific action button is a close button such as close only button 26 so that actuating the button causes the door 508 to close. [Application at page 10, lines 1-2; published application at paragraph 35.]

One of skill in the art will understand these passages to mean that a "close only button" generates a close signal when actuated to cause a door to close. There is no recitation in the application regarding a specific length of time that the button must be pressed to result in generation of a close signal or that the button is otherwise sensitive in these regards. Instead, it is clear that the specification fully accords with the idea that the close signal to close a barrier is generated *without* consideration as to the length of time the close button is being asserted by the user.

When it comes to push button devices, it is generally understood that consideration of a length of time of actuation is generally the exception rather than the rule. It is a situation like

this where application of the MPEP's statement that a lack of literal basis for a negative limitation need not be fatal to a claim is clearly relevant: "Note that a lack of literal basis in the specification for a negative limitation may not be sufficient to establish a *prima facie* case for lack of descriptive support." MPEP 2173.05(i) (citation omitted). Here, because it is generally understood how push buttons work, and because the application specifically states a "'close only' button 26 when activated will cause garage door 14 to close," a specific recitation that no specific length of time of actuation is considered when closing the door is simply unnecessary. Instead, such a circumstance is clearly inherent to the description as provided.

In addition to incorrectly suggesting that our specification fails to support such a recitation, the Examiner also suggests that our specification actively teaches away from such a recitation. In particular, the Examiner points to claims 7 and 17 and corresponding dicussion in the application regarding the ability of the close button to change function over time as indicating that length of time is important in the context of this application.

While the application does teach that time plays a part in changing the current functionality of a multifunction button or in delaying execution of a command, neither of these have anything to do with creating a close signal without consideration of length of time of actuation of a close button.

The first teaching regarding time highlighted by the Examiner is as follows:

> However, the specific action button 512 is not limited to use as a close button, but may also be used as a stop, open, light or learn button. In addition, as described below, the specific action button 512 may perform multiple functions, for instance, performing certain functions during certain periods of time or during the performance of different operations by the system 500. [Application at page 10, lines 3-7; published application at paragraph 35.]
>
> . . .
>
> On the other hand, if the controller 502 receives only information indicating the actuation of the specific actuation button 512, then such information is transmitted to the operator 504. The operator 504 next examines the present state of the garage door 508 and makes the determination of whether to open, close, or halt the movement of the garage door 508. The operator 504 then creates a signal to open, close, or halt movement of the door 508. Similarly, in arrangements where the function requested by the specific action button varies with time or the type of function being requested by the controller, the controller generates control signals based in part on time or functions being performed. [Application at page 10, lines 16-25; published application at paragraph 37.]
>
> . . .

> The function of the single-action button 512 may change function after its initial activation. For example, a timer may be set to indicate that a specific action button 512 would be a close button when the system is at rest and become a stop button 15-30 seconds after the specific action button 512 is first activated to close the door. [Application at page 12, lines 7-11; published application at paragraph 43.]

In this context, time plays a part in chaging the functionality of a specific action button. The claims, however, recite a "close button" specifically and not a multifunction button such as the disclosed specific action button. If the specific action button changes from being a close button, the claim would not apply because the "close button" could not then be actuated as a "close" button would not then be present and available.

Moreover, the consideration of time with respect to changing the function of the specific action button has nothing to do with the amount of time that the button is actuated. The specification refers instead to time after "initial activation." Once actuated as per the specification and the claims, the close button has still been actuated even if the button itself later turns into a button for a different function.

Accordingly, these discussions regarding the button changing present capability over time are inapplicable to the claims and do not necessitate the word for word support being required by the Examiner.

The other time delay concept noted by the Examiner is discussed in the specification as follows:

> Various delays can be built into the system so that when the specific action button is actuated, a delay period must expire before an action is taken. In one example, the specific action button 512 can be pressed and the controller 502 may wait a predetermined amount of time to issue a close command to the operator 504. This is advantageous when the user wishes to have a built-in amount of time to clear obstructions from the garage door before the door 508 is closed. [Application at page 12, lines 1-6; published application at paragraph 42.]

In this context, the application teaches that delays in execution of commands may be incorporated into the system. This again is not relevant to consideration of a length of time of actuation of the close button. Instead, the specification is seen to teach a time-insensitive button that, once asserted, produces a corresponding close signal which the system can delay responding to if desired. That the system can delay in responding to such a command, once

signaled by the close button, does nothing to somehow suggest that there is a temporally-based sensitivity with respect to whether the close button has, in fact, produced the close signal in the first place. Therefore, the passages relating to consideration of time for a specifc action button are irrelevant to the support the specification provides regarding consideration of an amount of time a close button is actuated.

For all these reasons, we respectfully submit that the claims are fully supported by the specification and that the writtten desription requirement is well met, and we request reversal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 4,408,251 to Kaplan ("Kaplan") in combination with U.S. Patent No. 5,656,900 to Michel ("Michel").

Claims 1-2, 4, 11-12, and 14

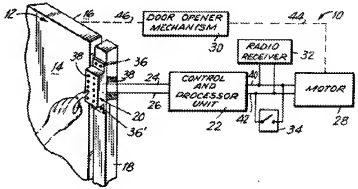
Independent claims 1 and 11 are directed toward systems for permitting authorized users to access a controlled area by moving a barrier. The claims recite in part "the close button producing [or generating] a close signal whenever the close button is actuated," "an entry request device for accepting a user authorization code," and "a controller operably and wirelessly coupled to the entry request device and the close button . . . such that the controller receives and authenticates the user authorization code and . . . [wherein] the receipt of the close signal from the close button automatically causes the controller to issue a close barrier signal at the output in order to close the barrier without the need to authenticate any user authorization code."

Claims 1-2, 4, 11-12, and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,408,251 to Kaplan in combination with U.S. Patent No. 5,656,900 to Michel. Claims 1-2, 4, 11-12, and 14 were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kaplan in combination with U.S. Patent No. U.S. Patent No. 5,576,670 to Heitschel ("Heitschel"). We understand the Examiner to be relying upon the Michel and Heitschel references to show wireless communication. Although both references disclose use of wireless communications in barrier operator systems, one skilled in the art would not modify Kaplan to include wireless communication between the keypad and controller as suggested by

the Examiner when studying the teachings of Kaplan as a whole nor in view of the teachings of Michel and/or Heitschel.

Kaplan

Kaplan describes a security system for a garage that is designed to be tamper-resistant. As shown in FIG. 1 of Kaplan (reproduced below for the convenience of the reader), a keypad 20 is coupled by control wires 24 and 26 to a control and processor unit 22. The control and processor unit 22 is not mounted with the keypad 20 but is mounted in the interior of the garage. See Kaplan Abstract and col. 4, lined 66-67. The control and processor unit 22 is also connected to a motor 28. From Kaplan's description it appears that an optional radio receiver 32 may alternatively receive a wireless control signal from a non-illustrated transmitter (and hence not from the keypad 20) and also provide a control signal to the motor 28. See Kaplan col. 5, lines 27-35. The keypad 20, however, always uses a wired connection with the control and processor unit 22 to prevent tampering notwithstanding that Kaplan is obviously aware of wireless approaches in these regards.

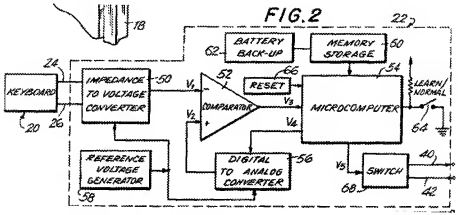


More specifically, Kaplan's wired connection between the keypad 20 and the control and processor unit 22 is central to its operation. Kaplan discloses a couple of different methods for communicating between the keypad 20 and the control and processor unit 22. In one embodiment, Kaplan operates by creating an analog signal when a button is pressed by the user based on resistors built into the device and determining whether the sequence of button presses results in an expected pattern of resistances. See Kaplan, col. 5, line 46 through col. 6, line 34. To sense resistances in this manner, which relies upon literally sharing circuitry between the keypad and the control and processor unit, the control and processor unit 22 must be connected by wires 24 and 26 to the keypad 20 as shown in FIG. 1 above.

Kaplan discusses that the resistances may be translated into voltages and that the voltages are used by the system to determine whether and how to move a barrier. See Kaplan, col. 6, line

67 through col. 10, line 3 discussing the embodiment of FIG. 2 included below. This entire embodiment of Kaplan, however, assumes that the resistance signals from within the keypad 20 have already been sensed via wires 24 and 26 by the control and processor unit 22. For instance, the transformation from resistances to voltages occurs at the impedance-to-voltage converter 50 that is located in the control and processor unit 22. See Kaplan col. 7, lines 9-12 et al. and FIG. 2. Such a system could not operate wirelessly between the keyboard 20 and the control and processor unit 22.

FIG.2



By another approach disclosed by Kaplan, the system determines whether an appropriate submission is received by sensing the length of time of the switch closures. See Kaplan, col. 6, lines 44-66, col. 10, lines 4-29, and FIG. 5 reproduced below for the reader's convenience. This embodiment again is looking at switch assertions only after a signal generated by the switch assertion has been received by the control unit 22'. As shown in FIG. 5, the keyboard 20c switch is connected to the control unit 22' via wires 24 and 26. Kaplan teaches that the control unit 22' senses the impedance across the wires 24 and 26 to sense the timing of the closure sequence to determine whether the sequence matches an expected sequence. See Kaplan, col. 6, lines 46-54. This impedance determination cannot be performed wirelessly.

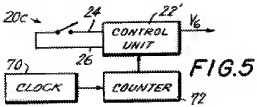


FIG.5

Moreover, the Kaplan reference summarizes its disclosure with an explanation of the benefits of the two-wire connection between the keypad and the controller:

> The transmission of a predetermined coded signal sequence over a two-wire line deters intruder interference, since he cannot compromise system security by gaining access to the two control wires. Only by depressing the correct switches within a defined time interval will the garage door be opened and/or closed. Breaking, shorting, or impressing external voltages or currents into the two-wire line will not activate the door. Inasmuch as only two control wires are necessary to transmit the coded signals no matter how many switches are located on the keyboard, the system can be easily retrofitted to any existing installation.

Kaplan, col. 10, line 64 through col. 11, line 7.

Accordingly, the Kaplan reference, when read as a whole, teaches specifically and directly away from providing wireless communication between the keypad of a security system and a controller for a barrier of the system. Kaplan also teaches specifically that only specific sequences or types of key presses will work to actuate the system; either by looking for specific sequences of resistances and/or by looking for a specific timing of button presses. Thus, modification of the Kaplan system to operate wirelessly between the keypad of a security system and a controller for a barrier of the system would result in a fundamental change in the operation of the device taught by Kaplan. See MPEP Section 2143.01, Section VI, "THE PROPOSED MODIFICATION CANNOT CHANGE THE PRINCIPLE OF OPERATION OF A REFERENCE" page 2100-141. A fundamental change to a device is not an obvious modification that would be within the scope of one skilled in the art.

In contrast, the entry control systems recited in claims 1 and 11 include the controller's being "operably and wirelessly coupled to the entry request device and the close button." For the reasons discussed above, the systems taught by Kaplan cannot simply include wireless communication between the keypad and the controller.

Examiner's Position and Our Response

The Examiner's response to the above argument is as follows:

> The argument that Kaplan teaches away from the combination with Michel or Heitschel is incorrect because Kaplan includes wireless communication that suggests the combination. Since wireless communication is expressly disclosed in Kaplan, wireless communication is not a fundamental change in operation or change in the principle of operation of the reference.

Office action of July 30, 2009 at 10. As is explained above, the reference to wireless operation by Kaplan has nothing to do with the security features at issue. Instead, Kaplan specifically teaches that the security features, which the Examiner asserts are the codes described by Kaplan, are based on timing or sequences of resistances that need to be transmitted using a wired connection. This specific feature would counsel one skilled in the art away from the wireless arrangement recited in the pending claims.

The Examiner explains his position further:

> This argument is not persuasive because Kaplan includes a radio receiver to receive codes from a transmitter. The wireless link would also provide coded signals that would avoid the problem of tampering by shorting a wired link. Heitschel and Michel disclose such a transmitter also including a keypad.
>
> Applicant states that receiver 32 of Kaplan may transmit a control signal from control unit 22 to motor 28. This is incorrect. Kaplan does disclose a radio receiver 32 to generate a command signal to open and close the door upon detection of an appropriate radio signal from a wireless radio transmitter (col. 5 lines 27-37). The receiver 32 generates a control signal and is therefor considered to be a controller similar to control unit 22 that also generates a control signal.

Office action of July 30, 2009 at 11. The passage cited by the Examiner is as follows:

> The optional radio receiver 32 is connected in parallel across the output conductors 40, 42. The receiver 32 is conventional, and is operative for generating a command signal, analogous to the aforementioned output control signal, which is conducted to the motor 28 to activate the mechanism 30 and, in turn, to open and/or close the door 12 upon the detection of an appropriate radio signal from a non-illustrated wireless radio transmitter. Such transmitters are typically either hand-held portable devices, or are generally located inside the automobile to be parked in the garage.

Kaplan at col. 5, lines 27-37. The Examiner fails, however, to address a distinguishing feature: that the operating signal received by the optional radio receiver 32 is coming from a *different* transmitter that is *not* the key pad that requires a wired connection to the control unit 22 as explained in Kaplan. Kaplan is silent about the operating characteristics of the non-illustrated transmitter, and thus, Kaplan does not suggest that a wireless connection is possible for its disclosed key pad.

Next the Examiner states that Kaplan fails to teach away from wireless communication for its keypad as follows:

> Wireless communication would not be a fundamental change in view of Kaplan expressly disclosing wireless communication. Further, col. 6 lines 35-43 of Kaplan clearly states that the keyboard generated "coded signals" are not limited to resistance levels, but may include any combination of resistors, inductors or capacitor. The examiner contends that such would correspond to frequency generating circuits such as RF oscillators. Applicant's argument that combinations of resistors, capacitors and inductors cannot be frequency generating circuits is not persuasive because these circuits are commonly known in the art as passive resonant circuits. Passive radio frequency tags and transponders with such resonant circuits are common in the entry control art and often referred to as RFID devices. This section of Kaplan also refers to using voltage references corresponding to amplitude modulated RF signals.

Office action of July 30, 2009 at 11. Here the Examiner is analogizing the specific communication structure disclosed in Kaplan to other signaling known in the art. Kaplan's teachings, however, are specifically drawn to impedances, voltage references, or current sources, each of which must be transmitted by a wired connection, not frequency generating circuits as contended by the Examiner:

> It will be understood that the keyboard generation of coded signals is not intended to be limited solely to generating different resistance levels. For example, the switched impedances can be real or complex, and can consist of resistors, inductors or capacitors, or any combination thereof. A plurality of voltage references, e.g. zener diodes, or current references, e.g. constant current sources, could also be used in place of the impedances.

Kaplan at col. 6, lines 35-43. Although other transponders are known in the art, the specific teachings of Kaplan mandate a wired connection. Accordingly, Kaplan cannot support the combination proposed by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. 103.

The teachings of Michel and Heitschel fail to explain or show how such a modification of the basic operation of Kaplan would be obviously performed by one skilled in the art. For instance, Michel discloses a "permanently mounted keypad radio transmitter 34 may also communicate with antenna 32 of the head unit to command the head unit to open and close the door." See Michel, col. 2, lines 45-48. Michel is completely silent regarding full closure of a barrier in response to a close button producing a close signal whenever the close button is actuated by a user. This silence would not lead one skilled in the art to modify the fundamental operating principals of Kaplan to create entry control systems such as those recited in the claims.

With respect to the combination of the Michel teachings with the timing embodiment of Kaplan, claim 1 recites that "receipt of the close signal from the close button automatically causes the controller to issue a close barrier signal at the output in order to close the barrier without the need to authenticate any user authorization code" where "the close button producing a close signal whenever the close button is actuated." Claim 11 includes a similar limitation. Michel is silent on this point. The timing embodiment of Kaplan also requires specific timing of the switch closures to actuate. See Kaplan, col. 6, lines 44-66, col. 10, lines 4-29. Accordingly, neither Kaplan nor Michel teach the closure of a barrier in response to actuation of a close button whenever the close button is actuated. For all these reasons, we respectfully request reversal of these rejections.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 4,408,251 to Kaplan ("Kaplan") in combination with U.S. Patent No. 5,576,670 to Heitschel ("Heitschel").

Claims 1-2, 4, 11-12, and 14

The above discussion regarding Kaplan and Michel are equally applicable here, and are incorporated by reference.

Heitschel discloses a keypad transmitter 25 and keypad unit 60 that respond to button presses by wirelessly transmitting coded information. The wirelessly transmitted coded information consists of, for example, registered code words or a binary code representation of a particular key press. See Heitschel, col. 6, line 44 through col. 7, line 35. Wireless transmission of codes as taught by Heitschel does not teach transmission of a resistance or timing to be sensed by the controller as taught by Kaplan. Mere suggestion that wireless transmission of coded information does not make it reasonable that one of skill in the art would modify the device of Kaplan to send resistance settings wirelessly against the express teachings of Kaplan that a two wire connection is a preferred and secure method of communication between a keypad and a controller.

The Examiner's response to these arguments is dependent on the Examiner's position that Kaplan need not be restricted to only a wired configuration. We disagree with this position for the reasons stated above.

Because the combinations of Kaplan and Michel and Kaplan and Heitchel would not lead one skilled in the art to create systems such as those recited in claims 1 and 11, it is submitted that the rejections over Kaplan and Michel and Kaplan and Heitchel should be reversed. Claims 2, 4, and 7 depend from claim 1, and claims 12, 14, 17, 18, and 21 depend ultimately from claim 11. Because the rejections of claims 1 and 11 over Kaplan and Michel and Kaplan and Heitchel are not proper, it is submitted that the art also fails to support a rejection of the dependent claims.

Conclusion

Claims 1-2, 4, 7, 11-12, 14, 17, 18, and 21 are in suitable condition to support allowance and have been shown to be allowable over the prior art of record. We therefore respectfully seek a reversal of the Examiner's rejection of these claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: February 24, 2010

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(8) Claims Appendix

1. An entry control system for permitting authorized users to access a controlled area by moving a barrier, comprising:

a close button, the close button producing a close signal whenever the close button is actuated by a user;

an entry request device for accepting a user authorization code;

a controller operably and wirelessly coupled to the entry request device and the close button and having an output,

such that the controller receives and authenticates the user authorization code and wherein the close button and the entry request device are disposed in a housing, and the receipt of the close signal from the close button automatically causes the controller to issue a close barrier signal at the output in order to close the barrier without the need to authenticate any user authorization code and without consideration of a length of time of actuation of the close button to effect closure of the barrier.

2. The system of claim 1 comprising a barrier operator communicatively coupled to the controller at the output, the barrier operator receiving the close barrier signal.

3. (Cancelled)

4. The system of claim 1 wherein the entry request device is a keypad.

5-6. (Cancelled)

7. The system of claim 1 wherein the close button changes function after a predetermined time period.

8-10. (Cancelled)

11. An entry control system for permitting authorized users to access a controlled area by moving a barrier, comprising:

a close button, the close button generating a close signal whenever the close button is actuated;

an entry request device for accepting a user authorization code;

a controller operably and wirelessly coupled to the entry request device and the close button and having an output,

such that the controller receives and authenticates the user authorization code and wherein the close button and the entry request device are disposed in a housing, the receipt of a close signal from the close button automatically causes the controller to issue a close barrier signal at the output in order to close the barrier without the need to authenticate any user authorization code and without consideration of a length of time of actuation of the close button to effect closure of the barrier, and the close signal received from the close button is caused by the actuation of the close button by any user.

12. The system of claim 11 comprising a barrier operator communicatively coupled to the controller at the output, the barrier operator receiving the close barrier signal.

13. (Cancelled)

14. The system of claim 11 wherein the entry request device is a keypad.

15-16. (Cancelled)

17. The system of claim 11 wherein the close button changes function after a predetermined time period.

18. The system of claim 17 wherein the close button changes to a stop button.

19-20. (Cancelled)

21. The system of claim 11 wherein the generation of the close barrier signals is delayed for a predetermined time after the actuation of the close button.

(9) Evidence Appendix

None.

(10) Related Proceeding Appendix

None.